

Labor market entry of Swiss sociology graduates at the master's level

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Structures, Trends, Perspectives”
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Outline

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- Labor market status
- Sectors and types of occupations
- Job characteristics
- Occupational positions
- Earnings
- Correspondence between work and qualification
- Overall success: achievement of occupational goals

4 Conclusions

Introduction

- The goal of this talk is to give a brief statistical overview of the labor market situation of graduates with a master's degree in sociology from one of the Swiss universities.
- Since the available data have been collected about 5 years after graduation, only early careers can be studied.

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Data

- Data: Higher education graduates study of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (FSO)
- Graduation cohorts from 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 (data collected in 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017).
- Full census (but not all graduates participate in the surveys; using weights provided by the FSO to counterbalance attrition).
- Pooled analysis across all cohorts due to the small number of graduates.

Comparison groups

- Focus is on graduates holding a master's degree in Sociology.
- They will be compared to graduates with a master's degree (university only) in ...
 - ▶ other social sciences (psychology, education, political science, communication, etc.)
 - ▶ economics (the FSO does not classify economics as social science, but it is)
 - ▶ history and culture sciences (philosophy, archeology, history, music, ethnology, etc.)
- Sample size:

Sociology	364
Other social sciences	4634
Economics	498
History and culture	1845
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Total	7341

1 Introduction

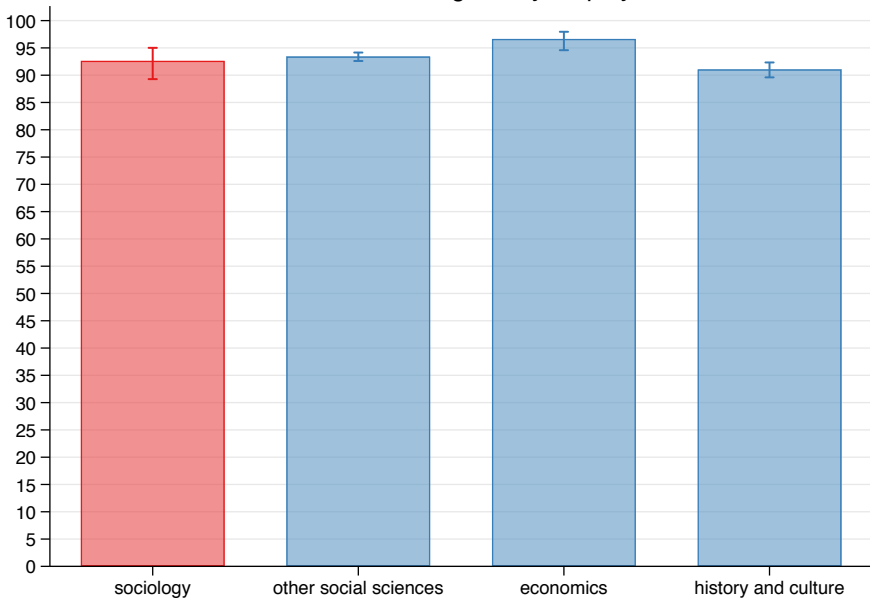
2 Data

3 Results

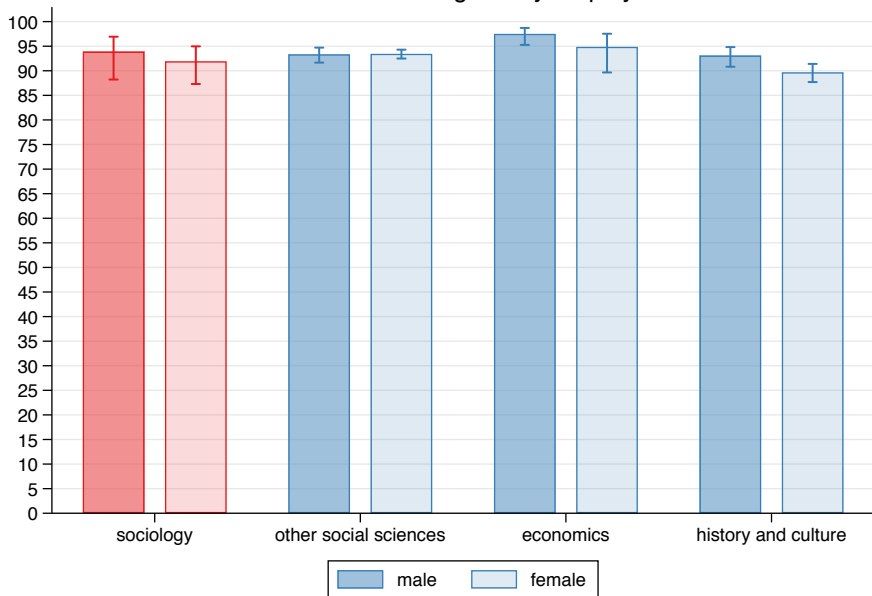
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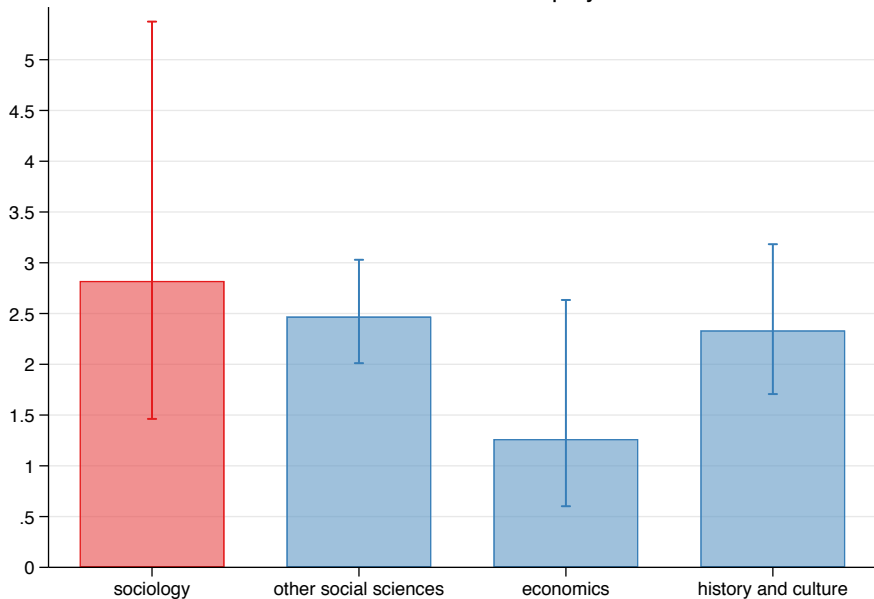
Percent who are gainfully employed



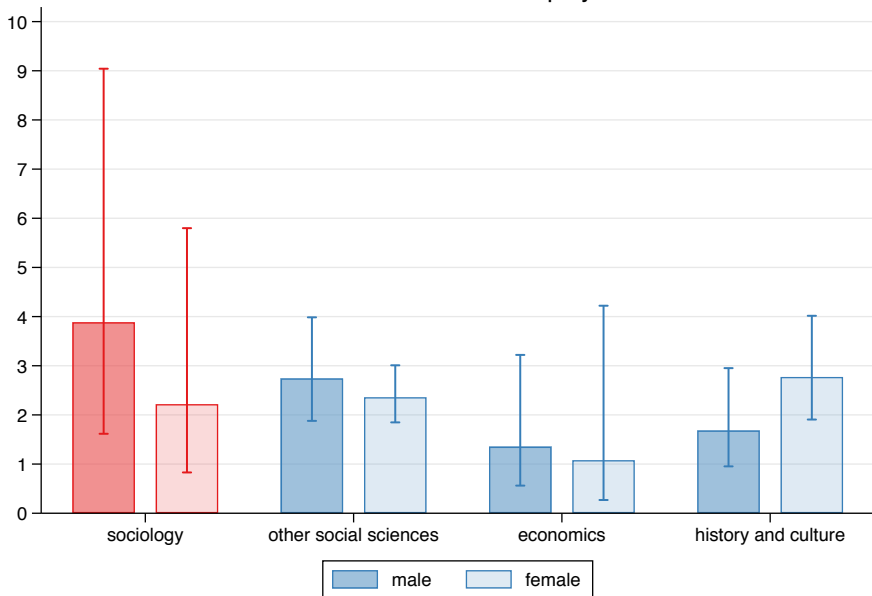
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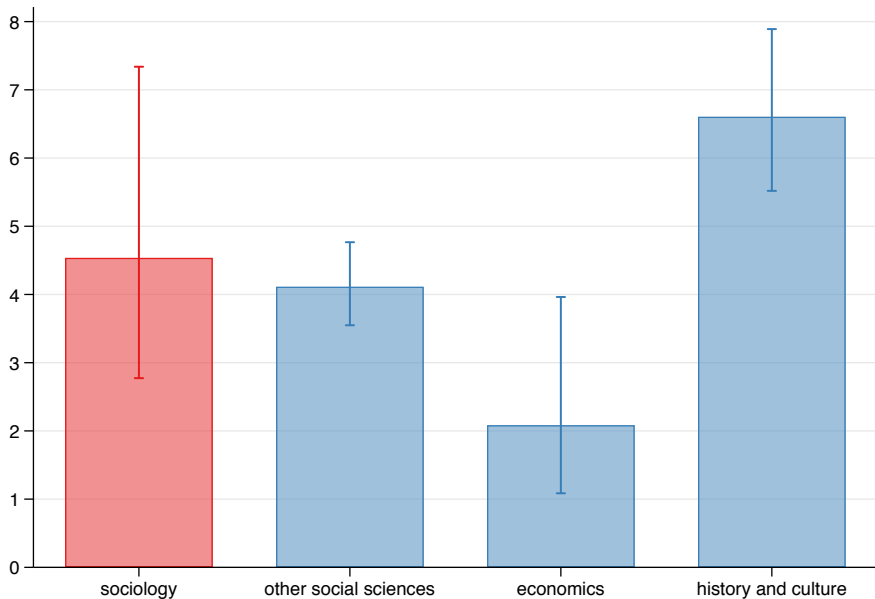
Percent who are unemployed



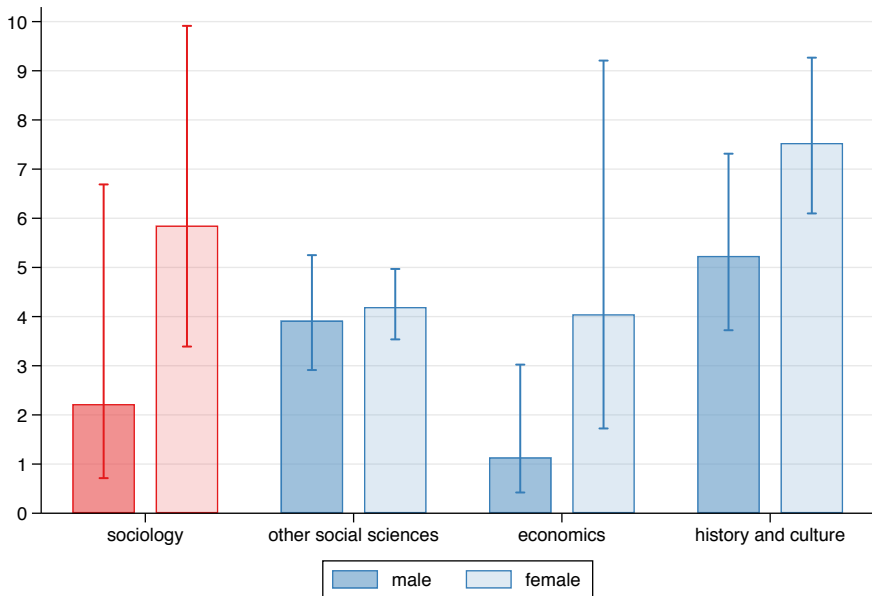
Percent who are unemployed



Percent who are not active on the labor market

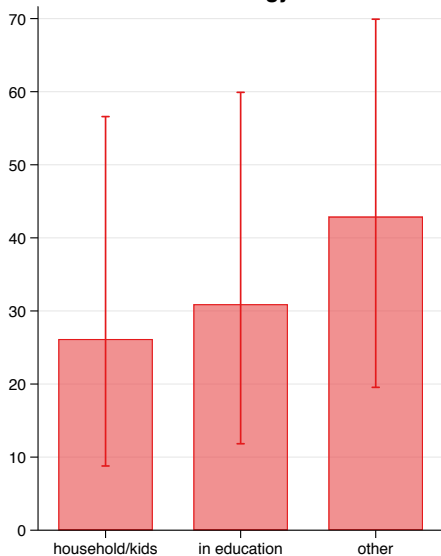


Percent who are not active on the labor market

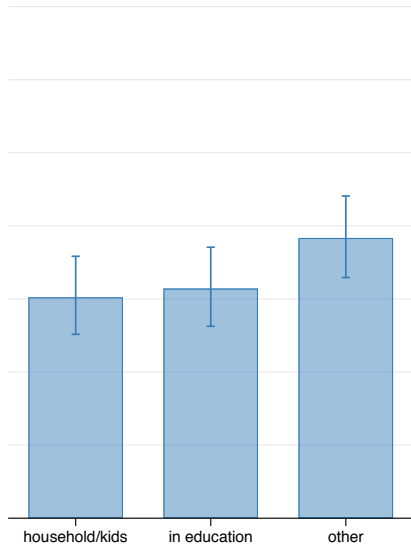


What are those doing who are not active on the labor market?

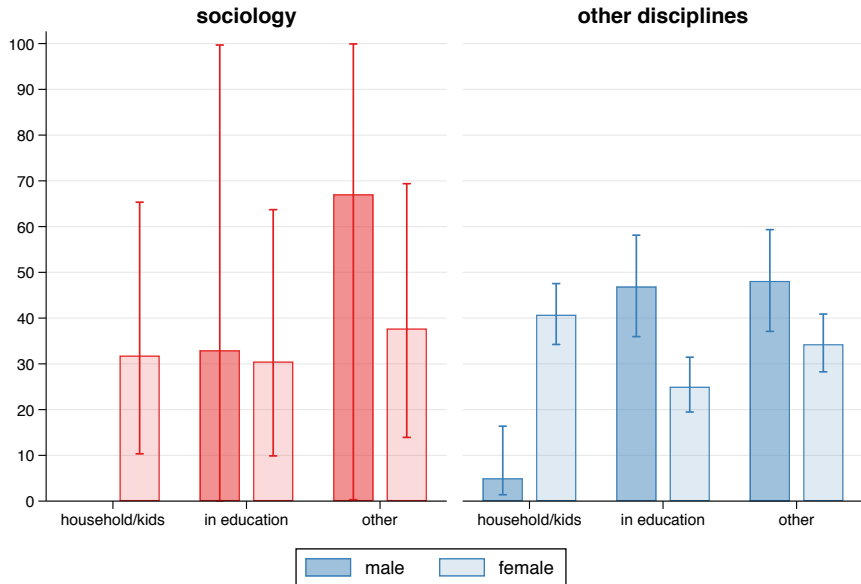
sociology



other disciplines



What are those doing who are not active on the labor market?



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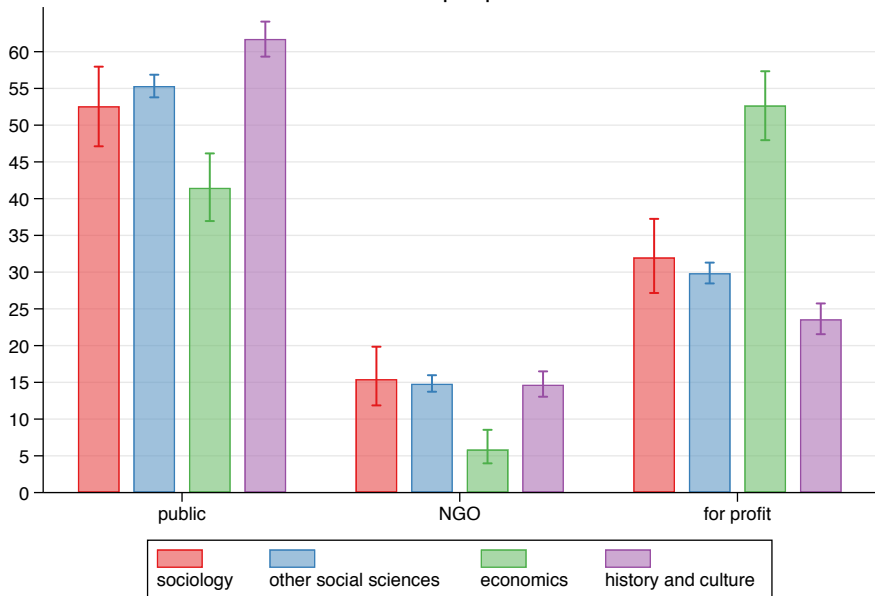
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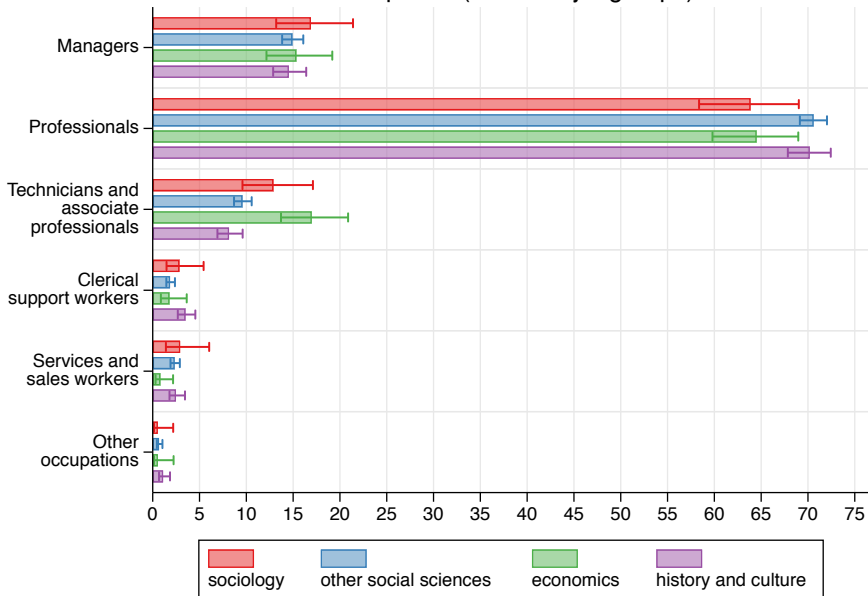
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Where do people work?



Occupation (ISCO major groups)



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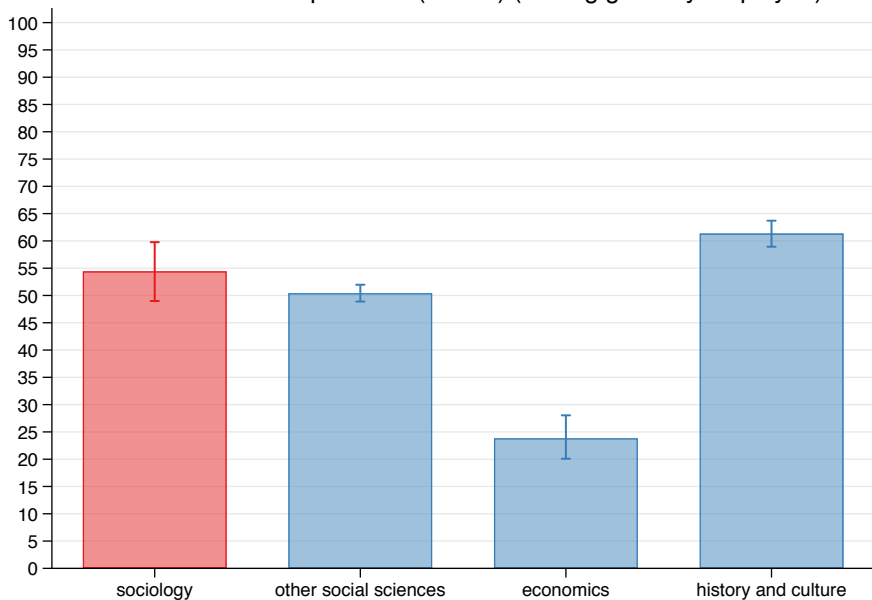
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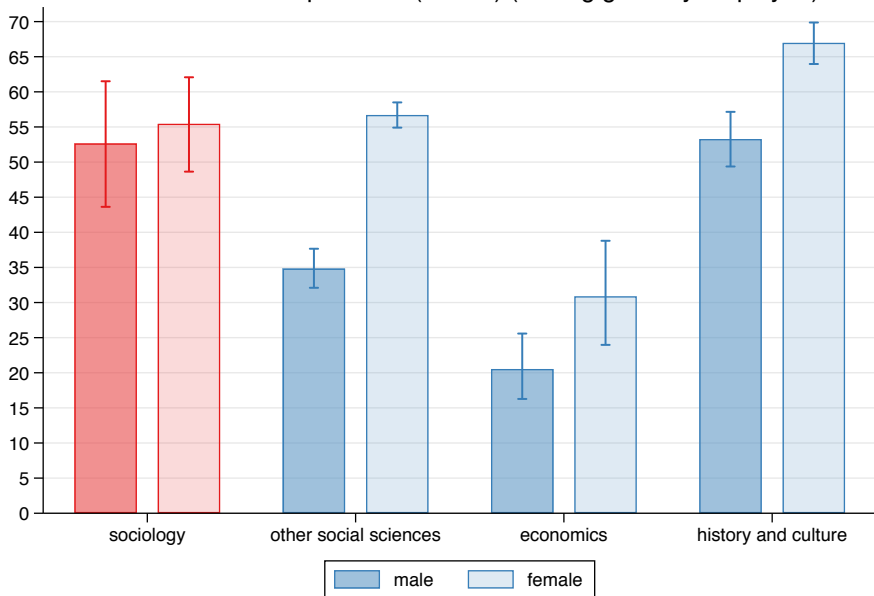
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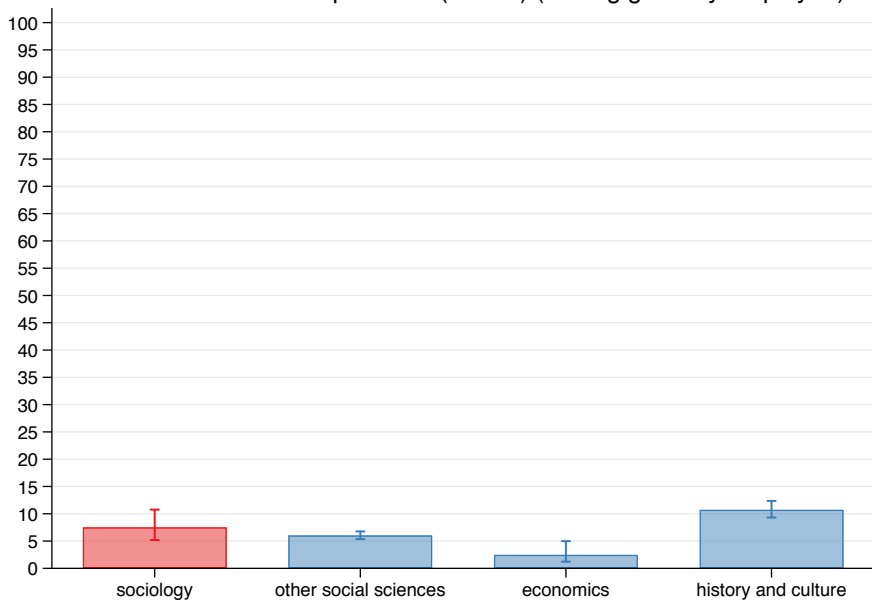
Percent who work part-time (< 90%) (among gainfully employed)



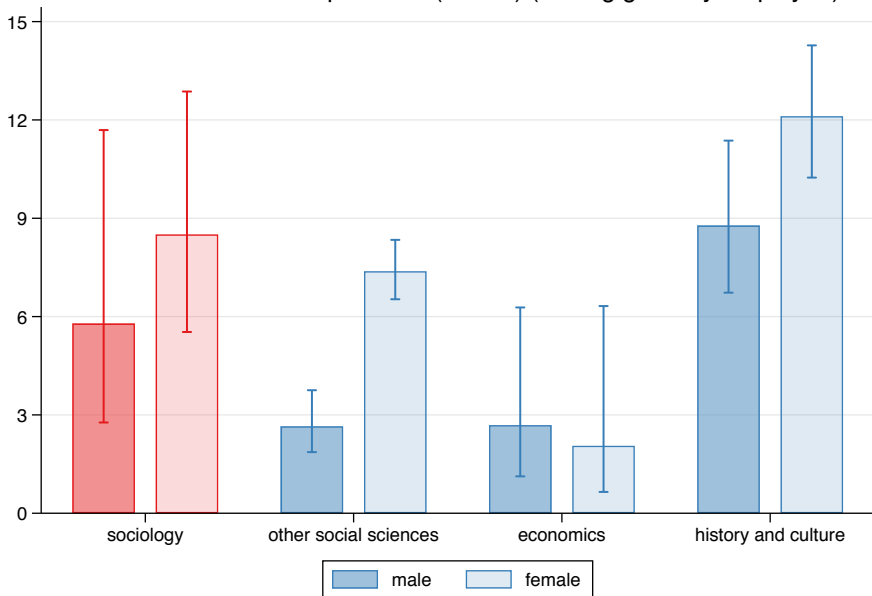
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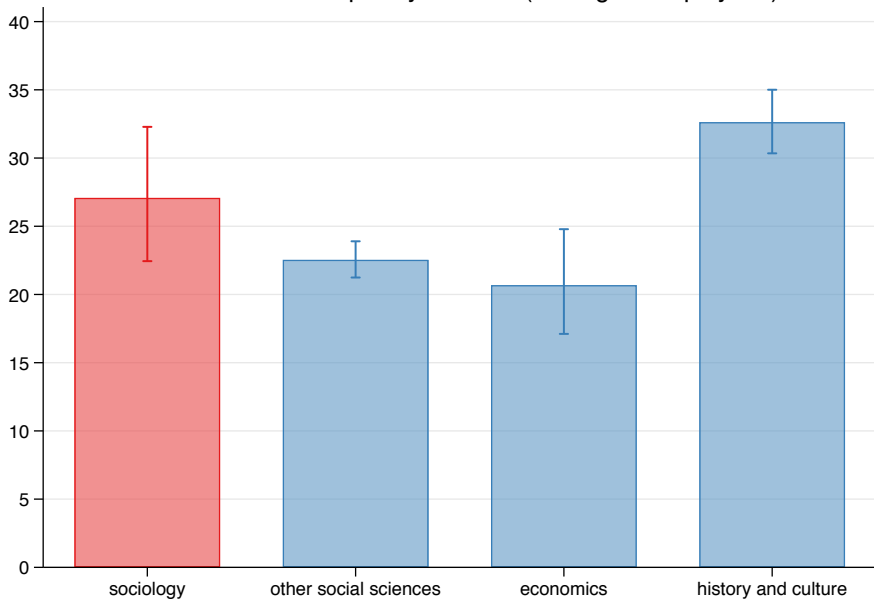
Percent who work low part-time (< 50%) (among gainfully employed)



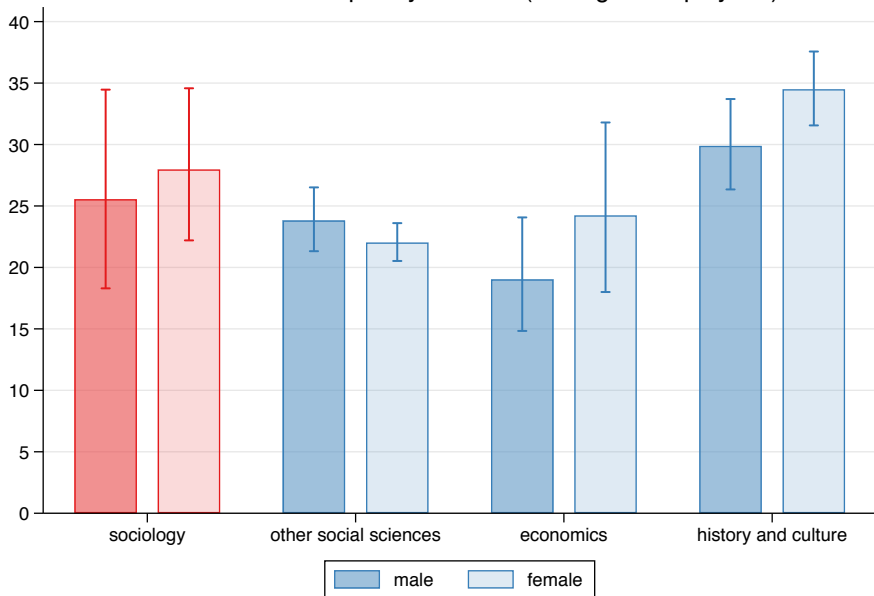
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Percent with a temporary contract (among all employees)



Percent with a temporary contract (among all employees)



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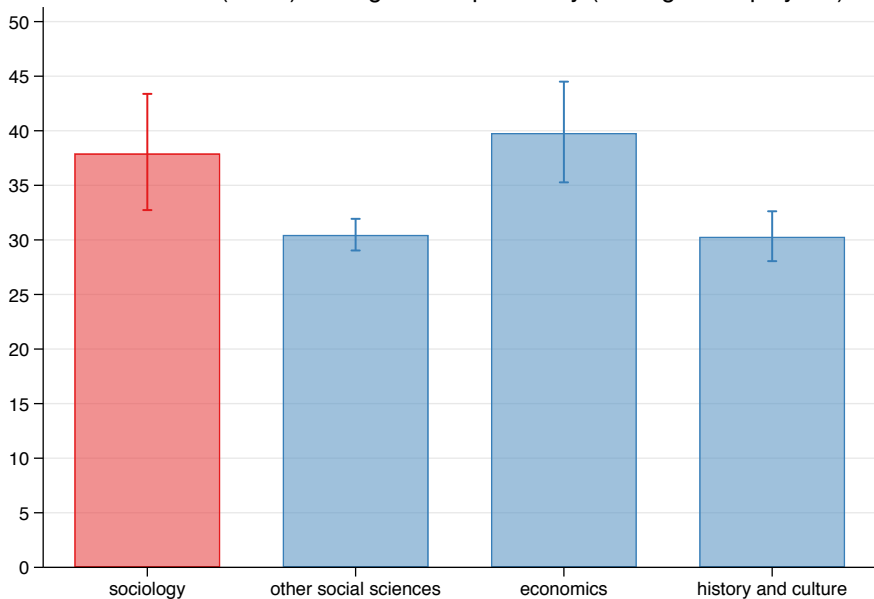
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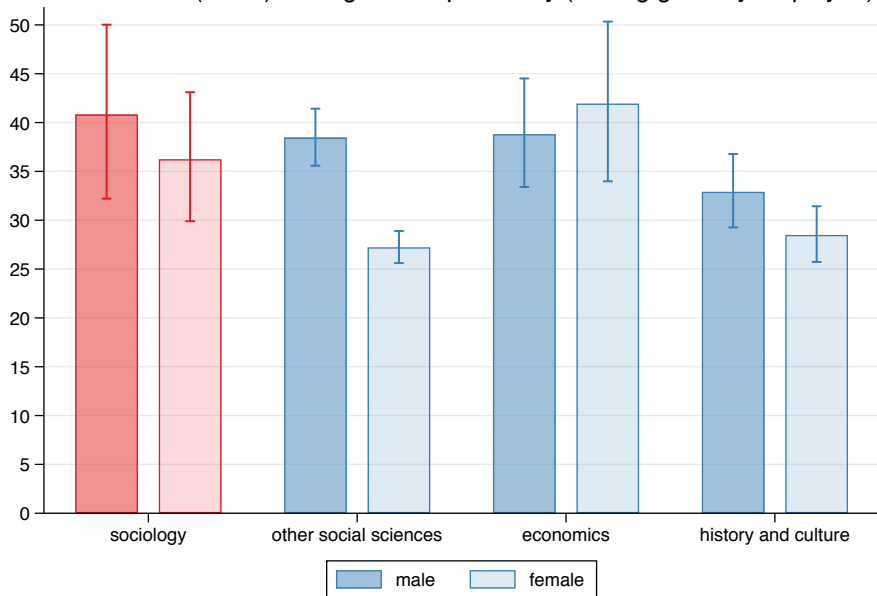
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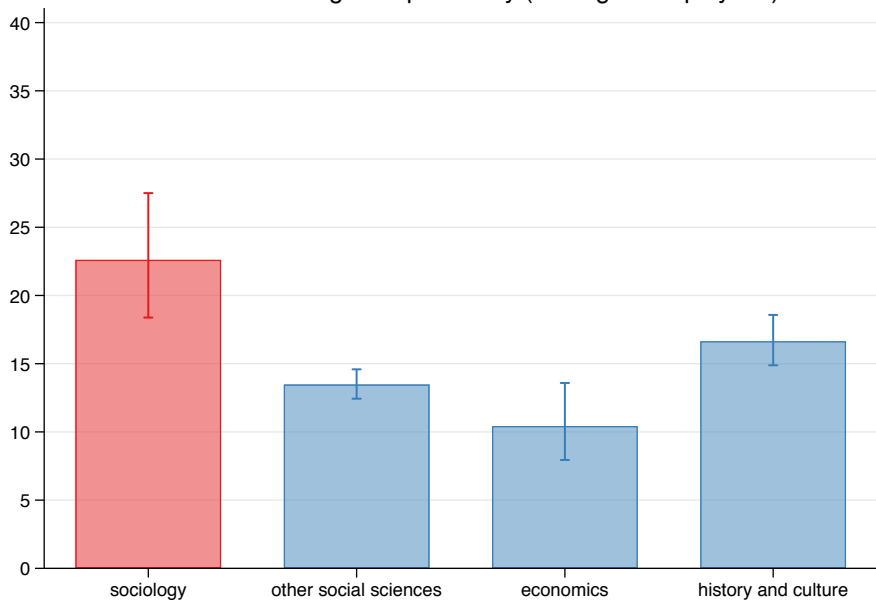
Percent with (some) managerial responsibility (among all employees)



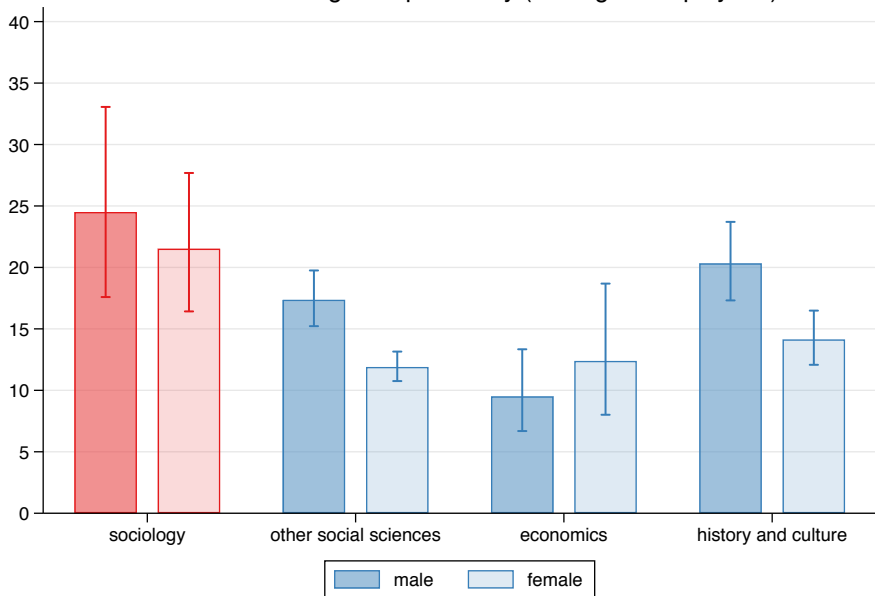
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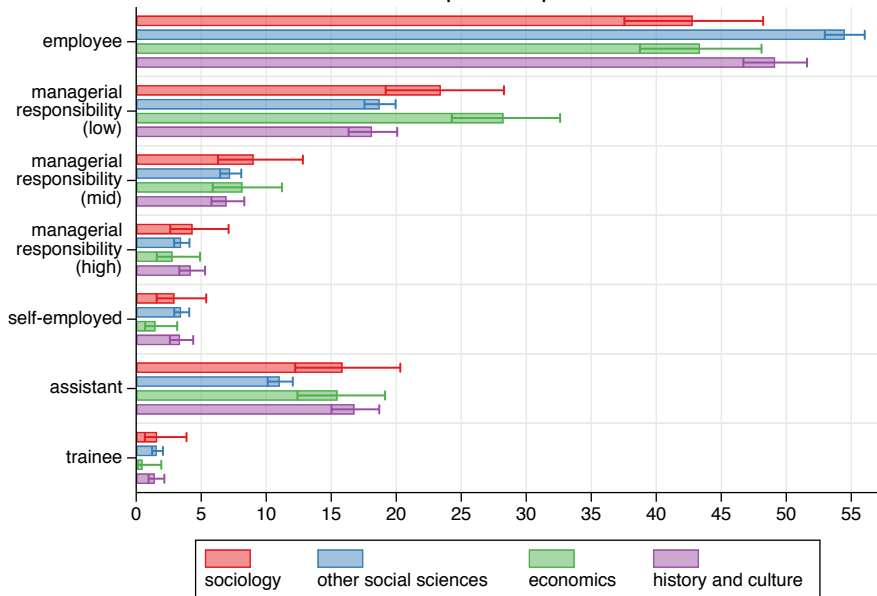
Percent with budget responsibility (among all employees)



Percent with budget responsibility (among all employees)



Occupational position



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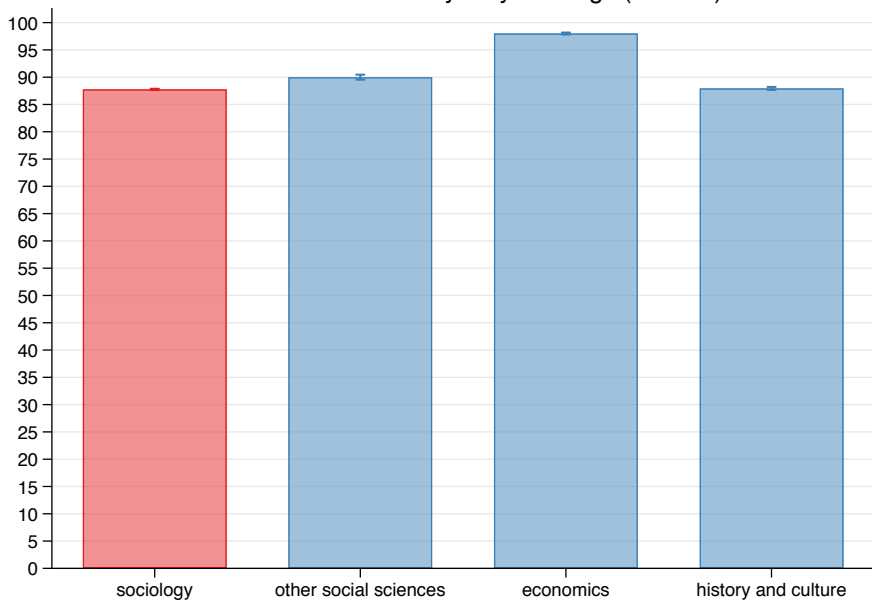
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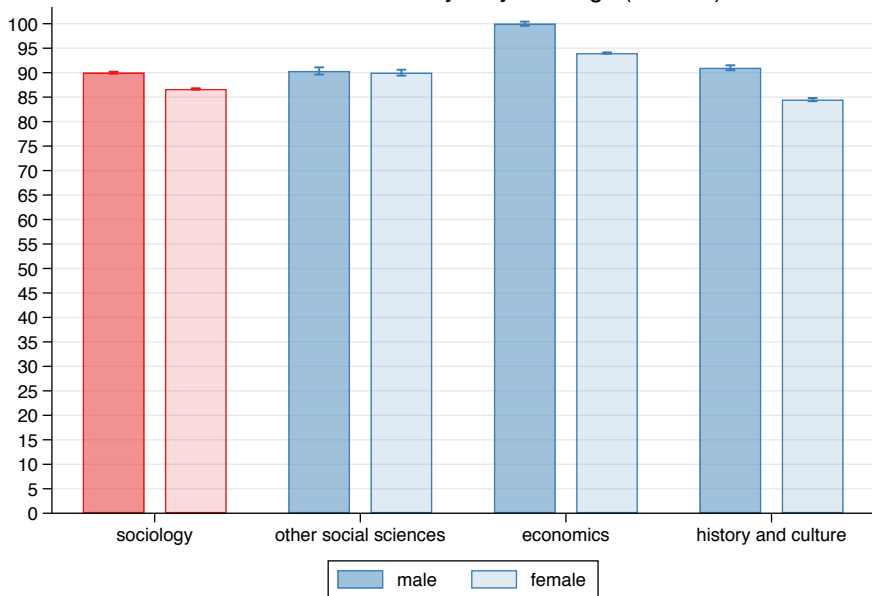
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Median standardized yearly earnings (in 1000)



Median standardized yearly earnings (in 1000)



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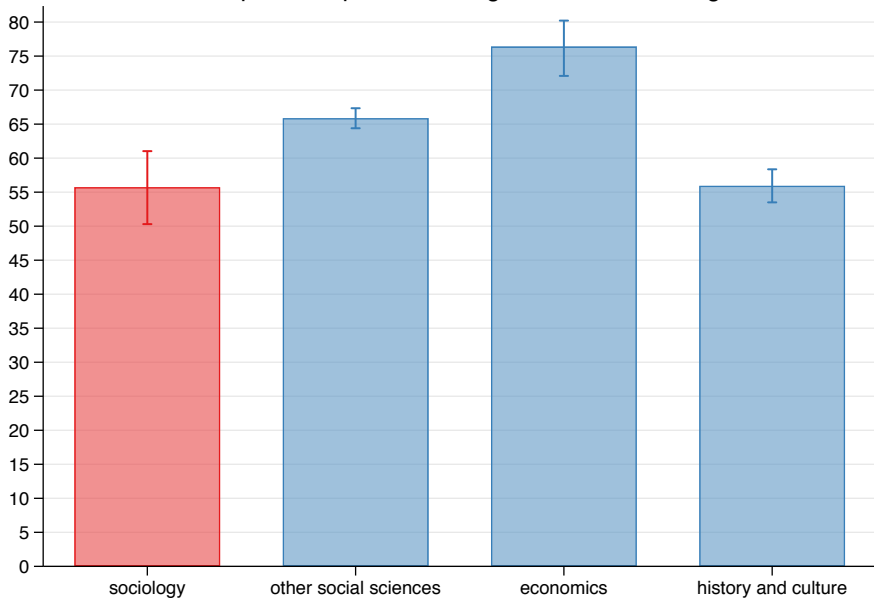
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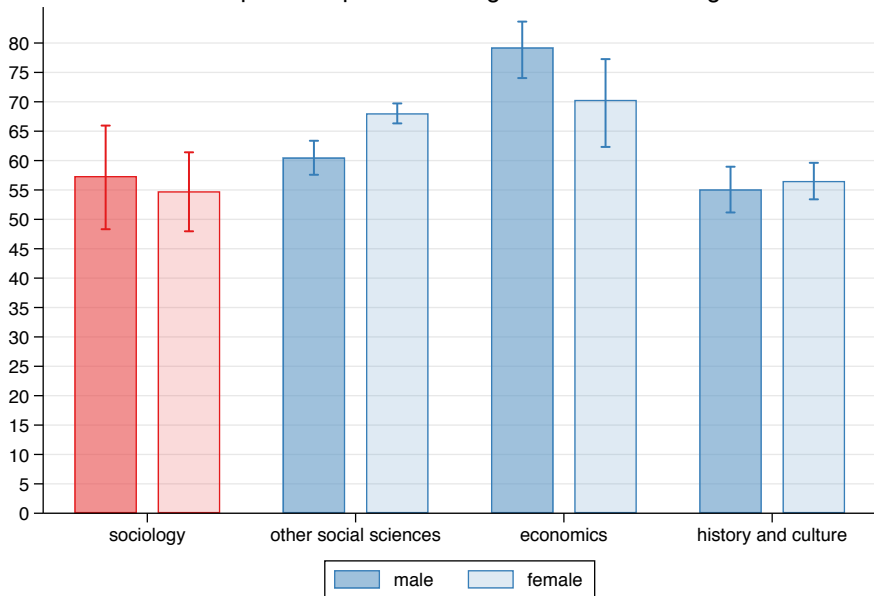
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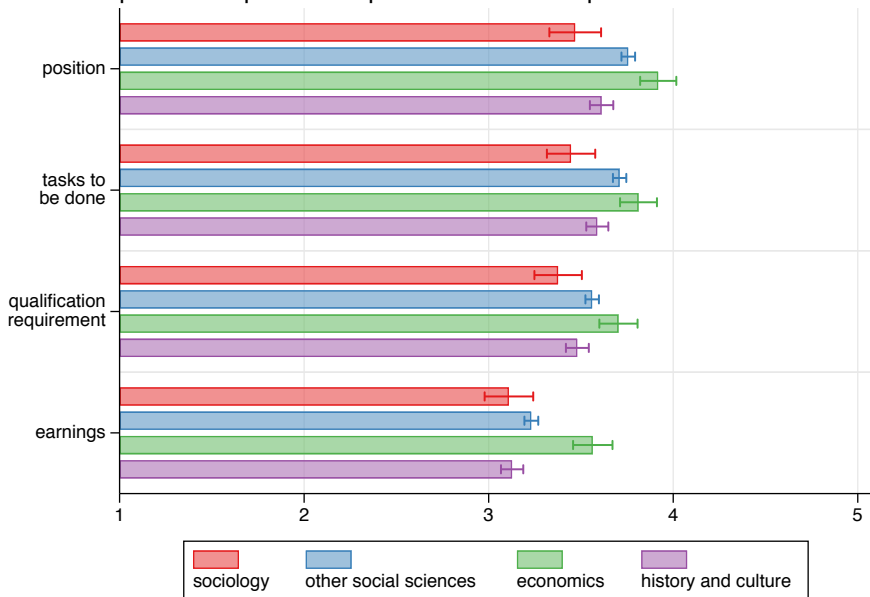
Job requires respondent's degree or a related degree



Job requires respondent's degree or a related degree



Job is adequate to respondent's qualification with respect to ...



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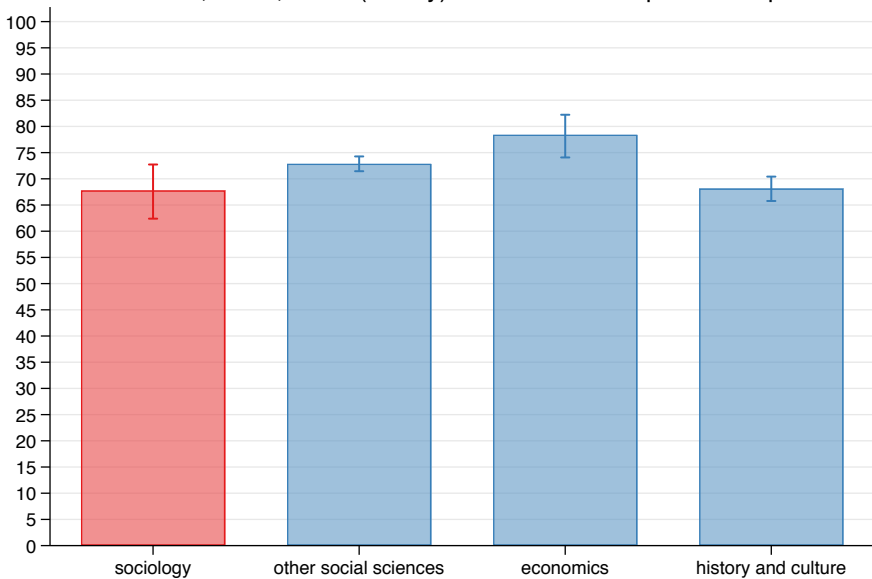
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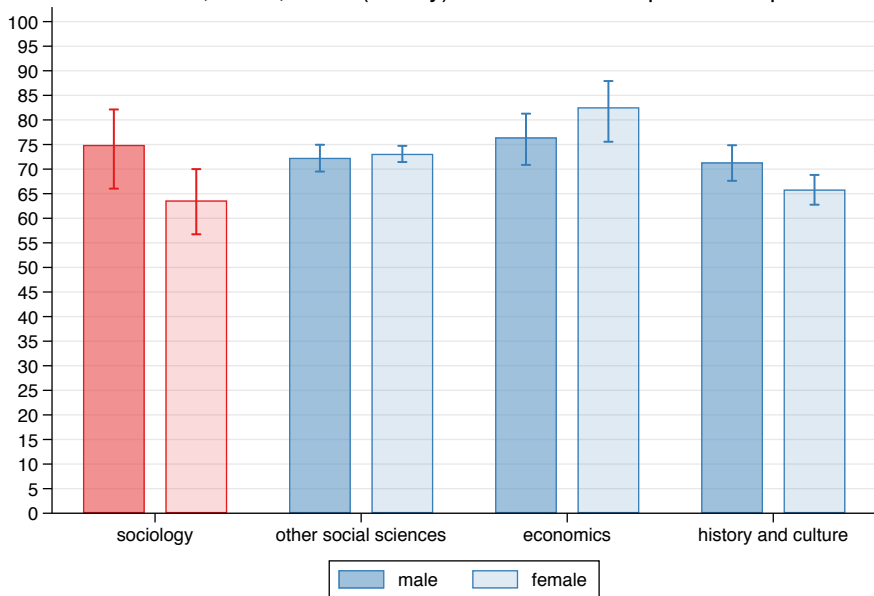
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Percent who, so far, could (mostly) realize their occupational aspirations



(Unfortunately only asked people who are working.)

Percent who, so far, could (mostly) realize their occupational aspirations



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- Overall, sociologists do very well: labor market participation is high, unemployment low, earnings comparable to others, mostly professionals and managers.
- In terms of occupational position, sociologist even seem to outperform the other groups (high proportion with managerial or budget responsibility).
- Yet, in terms of how well they perceive their work as corresponding to their qualification, sociologists fare a bit worse than their peers from neighboring disciplines.
- Related to that, the proportion of sociologists who feel that they are on a successful path to realizing their career aspirations, is comparably low.